

General Information

Pond Creek National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1994, is located along the Little and Cossatot Rivers in Southwest Arkansas. Public hunting and fishing is permitted on approximately 27,000 acres during specific times of the year. Special arrangements can be made to accommodate persons with bona fide disabilities by contacting the refuge office.

Individuals utilizing the refuge are subject to inspections of permits, licenses, hunting equipment, bag limits, boats, vehicles, and their contents by refuge or state officers.

The refuge may be closed without notice during periods of high water, during wildfire occurrences or other natural events that may pose a hazard to public safety.

To ensure your safety and enjoyment while visiting Pond Creek, please take the time to become familiar with the following regulations.

General Refuge Regulations

The regulations below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State regulations subject to the following conditions.

Permits are required for all hunts. When signed and in your possession, the general hunt permit on the front of this brochure serves as your permit for all refuge hunts. In addition, gun deer hunt and gun turkey hunts require a non-transferable quota permit. Quota permit application procedures may be obtained by calling the refuge. Application period for quota deer permits is August and January for turkey. The permit must be carried on the hunter's person and is not valid until signed. **Permits are not required for sport fishing, frogging or taking crawfish for personal use.**

Weapons

Firearms, archery tackle and crossbows are permitted only during designated hunts.

All weapons within 100 yards of a campground must be unloaded. All weapons transported in or on any land vehicle or boat under power must be unloaded and encased or dismantled (loaded is defined as shells in gun or cap on muzzleloader). Archery tackle and crossbows must be uncocked with arrow unknocked from string. Only rimfire rifles no larger than .22 caliber and shotguns are permitted. Exceptions; During muzzleloader and deer gun hunts, weapons legal for these hunts are also permitted.

Ammunition

Possession of shot larger than that legal for waterfowl hunting is prohibited; use or possession of lead shot is prohibited refuge wide.

Exception: During the deer and turkey hunts, lead ammunition legal for taking deer and turkey may be used. **Buckshot prohibited for gun deer hunting.**

Small game, furbearers, feral hogs, beaver, nutria and coyotes may be hunted with rimfire lead ammunition during refuge open season.

Motorized Vehicles

All motor vehicles are restricted to roads that are delineated on refuge map.

Exception: Standard manufacturer's high flotation all-terrain vehicles or ATV's (3, 4-wheelers and "Hustlers") are permitted only on trails designated by ATV signs and marked with yellow or blue paint. Blue painted trails are open year round to reach areas open to fishing. Yellow painted trails are open from September 29, 2003-January 31, 2004.

ATV's are allowed only for wildlife dependent activities. ATV's are not allowed on any improved roads open to conventional vehicles. ATV's may be used on unimproved roads (see map). The maximum legal speed for any land vehicle is 35 m.p.h..

Need Additional Information?
For more copies of this leaflet or other specific information, contact the refuge.

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Crossett, AR 71635
870/364 3167
Office hours: Monday-Friday
7:00 am - 3:30 pm

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May 2003



Pond Creek



National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations 2003-2004



Pond Creek General Hunt Permit 2003-2004
I have read and understand these refuge regulations.

Signature of Hunter

This permit is valid only when signed above by the hunter and must be carried on hunter's person.

(Cut out if desired.)

New regulations highlighted

Animals/ Pets Dogs are allowed for hunting migratory birds, squirrel, rabbit and raccoons during designated seasons only. Other dogs and pets must be confined or on a leash. Horses are prohibited during the muzzleloader and gun deer hunts. At other times horses may be used on roads and trails delineated on refuge map, as open to public use for on refuge wildlife dependent activities such as hunting and fishing. Firearms transported on horses must be unloaded and encased.

Camping Camping is permitted only in designated primitive camping areas and in conjunction with on-refuge wildlife-oriented activities. Camping area entrances are marked by signs and boundaries are marked with orange paint. Campers may stay no more than 14 days during any 30 consecutive-day period in any campground. Camps must be occupied daily. All disturbances, including the use of generators, are prohibited after 10 pm. Camping on the refuge while hunting off the refuge is not permitted.

Commercial Activities No person, including but not limited to a guide, guide service, outfitter, club or other organization shall provide assistance, services, or equipment to any other person for compensation on National Wildlife Refuge lands unless such person, guide, guide service, outfitter, club or other organization has obtained a Commercial Use Permit from the National Wildlife Refuge. For the purposes of this regulation, any fees paid to a person for lodging, meals, club membership or similar services will be considered compensation.

A refuge Commercial Use Permit is also required for all other commercial activities on the refuge including but not limited to commercial fishing, trapping, filming, photography, collecting plants or parts of plants, acorns or mussels.

Fires Permitted only in camping areas and must be attended. Only downed wood may be used for fires.

Prohibited Activities

Caution: During periods of high fire danger, all fires may be prohibited.

Littering

Spotlighting-artificial light may not be used to locate wildlife.

Baiting or hunting over bait, salt or any attractant.

Hunting within 150 feet of roads and trails open to motor vehicle use (including ATV and designated hiking trails)

Target practice

Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting. Consumption of alcohol in plain view in campgrounds. Consumption of alcohol on roadways and in parking areas.

Taking of wildlife or plants (including cutting trees or brush) other than specified in the brochure.

Possession or use of herbicides.

No person shall utilize the services of a guide, guide service, outfitter, club, organization or other person who provides equipment, services or assistance on National Wildlife Refuge lands for compensation. Failure to comply with this provision subjects each hunter in the party to a fine if convicted of this violation.

Drive or screw a nail, spike or other metal object into a tree or to hunt from any tree in which such an object has been driven.

Marking trails with tape, ribbon or paint. Use of biodegradable materials permitted.

Searching for or removing any object of antiquity including arrowheads, pottery or other artifacts.

Blocking gates or roadways with vehicles.

2003-2004 Season Dates

For all deer and turkey harvested on the refuge, the hunter will immediately (prior to moving the animal) complete hunting license tag using 532 as zone of kill. Also use 532 as zone of kill at check station (Central Store serves as a State check station).

Type	Season Dates	Specific Regulations
Duck, Goose, and Coot	State Duck Season September Teal Season closed	Hunting ends at noon each day. Only portable blinds are permitted. Blinds, boats and Decoys must be removed each day, either to a designated area or from the refuge. Closed during Quota gun hunt.
Squirrel and Rabbit	10/4/2003-1/31/2004 (Spring season closed)	Dogs allowed 12/1/2003-1/31/2004 Closed during Quota gun deer hunt.
Raccoon and Opossum	11/14/2003-1/31/2004	Use of dogs required during hours of darkness. Closed during Quota gun deer hunt.
Deer (archery/ crossbow) (Zone 532)	10/1/2003-1/31/2004	State bag limit applies Closed during Quota gun hunt
Deer (muzzleloader) (Zone 532)	October State Season for Deer Management Zone 14	Archery and Crossbow permitted; bag limit 2 deer (one buck and one doe)
Quota Deer (gun)	11/28-29, 2003	Quota permit required (100 permits issued by random drawing) Deer must be checked at refuge check station Bag limit 2 deer (one buck and one doe)
Turkey, Spring Archery	State Season, Zone 9	State bag limit. Fall season closed.
Turkey, Spring, Gun	3/27-28, 2004 (youth hunt) 4/8-10, 2004	Quota permit required. Limit one bearded turkey. Youth hunt restricted to youths, under 16 years of age (age at opening of state turkey season in 2004) accompanied by on non-hunting adult. For other quota turkey hunt, no one may accompany permit holder while hunting. (30 permits issued by random drawing for each hunt.)
Trapping	11/14/2003-1/31/2004	Special permit required and available at refuge office.
Beaver, Nutria Coyote, and Feral Hog	Any refuge hunt	May be taken without the use of dogs during any daytime refuge hunt with weapons legal for that hunt. No bag limits. Live hogs may not be transported.

Specific Hunting Regulations

State bag limits, season lengths and weapon regulations apply unless otherwise specified in this brochure.

A legal buck on all refuge hunts is defined as a deer having both antlers under two inches (including button bucks) or at least one antler with at least three points, each a minimum of one inch long.

All hunters born after December 31, 1968 must possess a hunter Education Card. Also, hunters under the age of 16 must be accompanied (in sight and in normal voice contact) at all times by an adult 21 or older. Each adult can supervise only **one** youth during big game hunts and no more than two youths during all other hunts.

Deer taken on quota hunt must be checked at the refuge check station on same day killed. Carcass must be left intact (entrails may be removed) until taken to check station.

Only portable deer stands may be used. Stands may be erected two days before each hunt and must be removed within two days after each hunt.

Sportfishing and Frogging Regulations

Sportfishing, frogging and taking of crawfish for personal use are permitted in all refuge waters in accordance with State regulations. Trotlines must be secured with cotton line which extends into the water.